Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 AF-04 EUR-08 NEA-07 ISO-00 H-03 SS-07 NSC-06 /037 W

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R 191154Z AUG 77 FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4897 INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM AMEMBASSY PARIS AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP, EAID, PBOR, PINS SUBJECT: VISIT OF CODEL SIKES

REF: STATE 195671 (NOTAL)

- 1. FOLLOWING SUMMARIZES MAJOR ISSUES OF AUGUST 13 MEETING BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT SIKES AND VICE-PRESIDENT DJIME. SIMILAR TO REPORTED KHARTOUM DISCUSSIONS, NDJAMENA TALK DID NOT GO DEEPLY INTO SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION.
- 2. DISCUSSION OPENED WITH DJIME THANKING SIKES FOR COURTESY SHOWN HIMAND HOSPITATLITY ACCORDED HIM DURING HIS U.S. VISIT. HE GAVE CONGRESSMAN BRIEF RUNDOWN OF HIS TALKS WITH VICE-PRESIDENT MONDALE AND SECRETARY OF STATE VANCE.
- 3. REP. SIKES EXPLAINED THAT HIS VISITING NDJAMENA REFLECTED INCREASING CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD. HE EXPLAINED THAT HE ALSO WAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GOING TO CAIRO, KHARTOUM AND OTHER AFRICAN AND MID-EAST COUNTRIES TO INFORM HIMSELF ABOUT THE SECURITY SITUATION SO HE WOULD BE BETTER ABLE TO EVALUATE WHAT CONGRESSIONAL ROLE SHOULD BE.

4. DJIME THEN OFFERED SUCCINCT EXPLANATION OF THE SECURITY SITUATION, STRESSING NEED FOR NATIONAL

RECONCILATION. SIKES QUESTIONED VICE-PRESIDENT ON LIBYAN ROLE AND DJIME EXPOUNDED BRIEFLY ON THEIR INVOLVEMENT. HE ALSO POINTED OUT SOVIETS WERE BEHIND LIBYAN ACTIONS.

5. CONGRESSMAN NEXT QUERIED REGARDING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND DJIME EXPLAINED THAT SECURITY AND DEVELOPMENT WERE TIGHTLY LINKED. CHADIAN FIRST PIORITY WAS TO EFFECT NATIONAL RECONCILATION WHICH WOULD THEN PERMIT COUNTRY TO EMBARK ON COORDINATED PROGRAM OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. REP. SIKES ASKED ABOUT TRANSPORTATION AS A DEVELOPMENT PRIORITY AND DJIME RESPONDED THAT IT WAS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT. OVERRIDING NEED OF COUNTRY WAS IMPROVEMENT OF INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORTATION TO LINK ALL PARTS OF NATION SO THAT THERE WOULD BE AN END TO RAINY SEASON ENCLAVEMENT. PERMITTING YEAR ROUND LINK-UP OF ALL REGIONS.

6. IN RESPONSE TO SIKES QUESTIONING COMMUNICATION WITH OUTSIDE WORLD, VICE-PRESIDENT EXPLAINED THIS WAS NEXT MOST IMPORTANT PRIORITY AND THAT CONSTRUCTION OF BETTER ROADS AND BRIDGES TO NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES COULD END CHAD'S ISOLATION AS WELL AS PROMOTE EXPORTS AND FOREIGN TRADE. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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7. DJIME SAHD THAT ONCE SECURITY WAS ASSURED AND TRANSPORT LINKS IMPROVED, CHAD COULD FOCUS ON INCREASED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION. FOLLOWING THIS, THE OTHER PRIMARY NEEDS OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT COULD BE ADDRESSED.

8. IN CLOSING TALK, CONGRESSMAN SIKES SAID HE LOOKED FORWARD TO RETURNING TO CHAD AND PROMISED TO ACT AS SPOKESMAN FOR COUNTRY IN CONGRESS, ASSURING DJIME HE WOULD DO HIS UTMOST TO SEE THAT TIMELY ASSISTANCE WAS FURNISHED BY THE U.S.

9. ABOVE HAS NOT BEEN CLEARED WITH CONGRESSMAN. HE MAY WISH TO REVIEW ON RETURN TO WASHINGTON. BRADFORD

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